

#8

TENER • JOVICIC • MAGNAYE • BIRCH • MACLEOD

**BAD
BUG**
MIDNIGHT
MATURE 17+

VANYA

THE LOST WARRIOR



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THE LOST WARRIOR

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BAD BUG

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H-HOW
OLD IS IT?

WE
HATCHED THIS
ONE AS SOON
AS WE ARRIVED
HERE. TWELVE
DAYS.

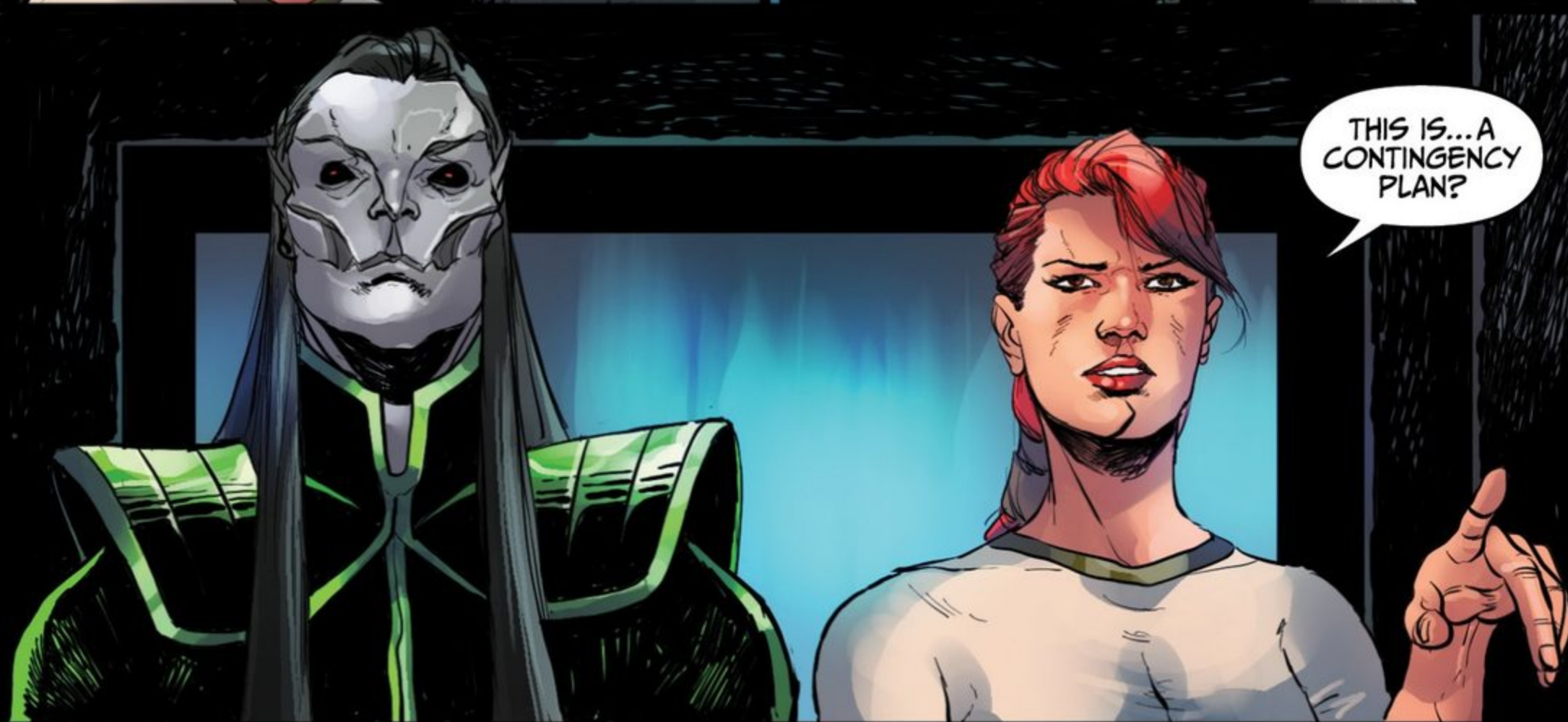
THEY
GROW THAT
FAST?

TORRIDIAN
DRAGONS HAVE
SHORT LIFESPANS.
THIS ONE, IN OUR
CARE, COULD LIVE
UP TO TWO
MONTHS.



WHY
IS THERE ONE
HERE...IN THE
BASE?

IN CASE THE
TORRIDIAN'S BREAK
THROUGH OUR
DEFENSES.



THIS IS...A
CONTINGENCY
PLAN?

"AS YOU KNOW, THESE CREATURES ANNIHILATED VALEN—THE TORRIDIAN HOMEWORLD.

"AND THE TORRIDIANS, UNDERSTANDABLY, BLAMED THE GALACTIC FEDERATION.



"AND THEY'D BE CORRECT. WE TURNED THEIR OWN PLANET INTO A WEAPON AGAINST THEM.

"WE PLANTED NESTS OF DRAGON EGGS DEEP UNDERGROUND, STRATEGICALLY NEAR EVERY MAJOR CAPITAL ON VALEN.



"IN MERE DAYS, HUNDREDS OF DRAGONS REDUCED VALEN TO ASH.

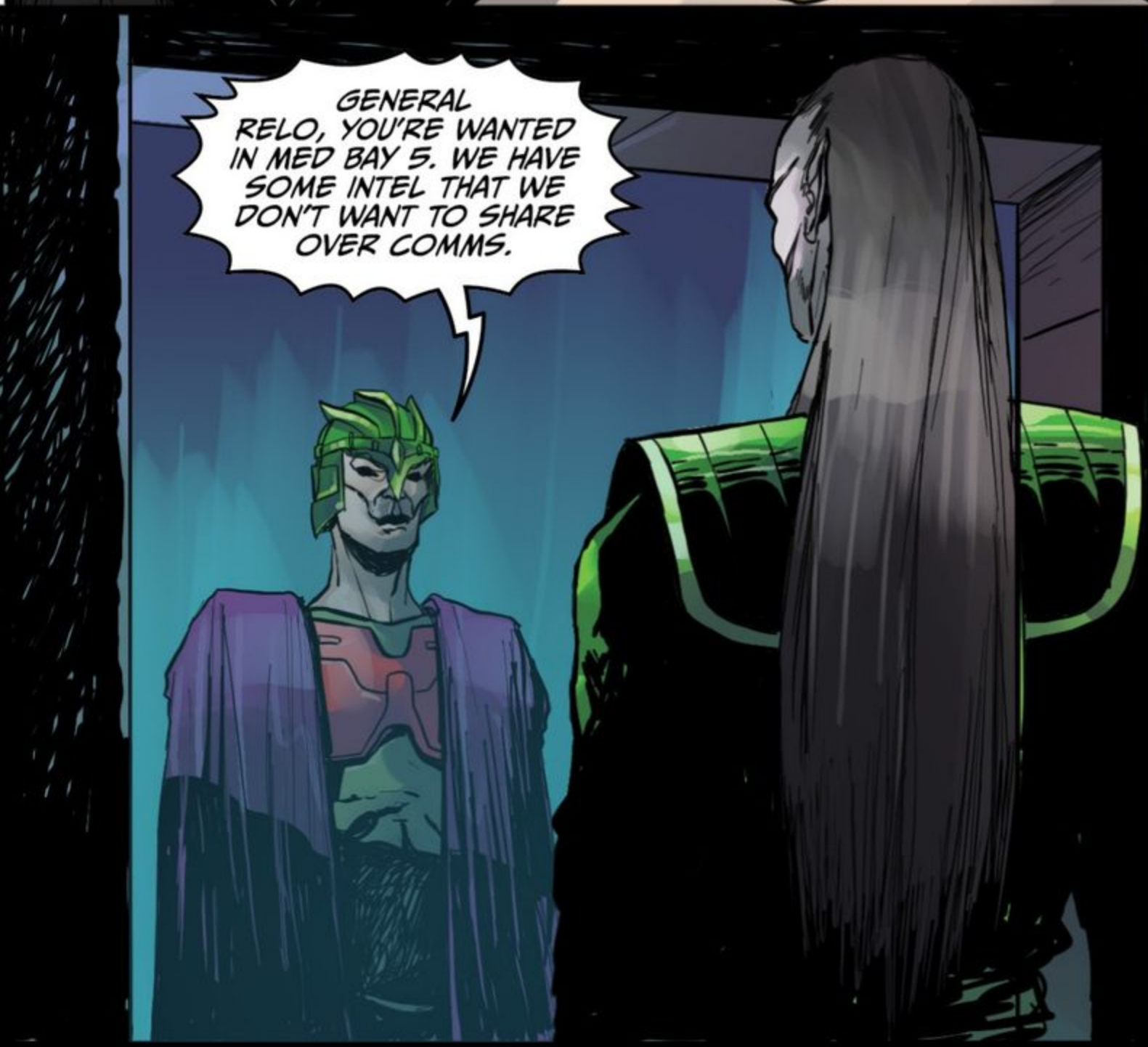
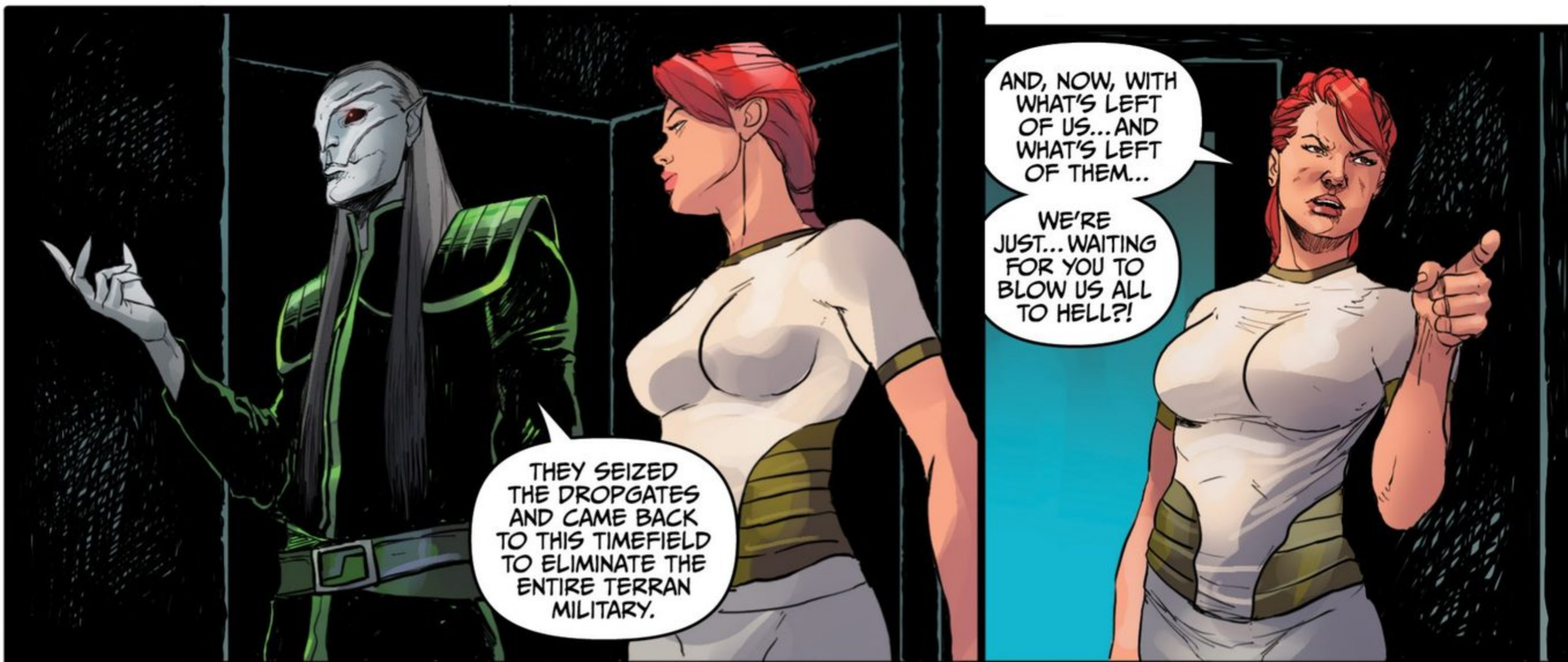


"ALL THAT REMAINED OF THE TORRIDIANS WERE SHIPS IN DEEP SPACE, SEARCHING FOR A NEW PLANET—TOO FAR TO RESPOND TO DISTRESS CALLS FROM THEIR CAPITAL CITIES.

"THE TORRIDIAN EMPEROR INFORMED US THEY WOULD SURRENDER THEIR FORCES IN EXCHANGE FOR SURVIVAL RESOURCES WHILE SEARCHING FOR A NEW HOME.

"LITTLE DID WE KNOW, TERRA—YOUR PLANET—WAS THEIR NEXT CONQUEST.

"AS A VITAL ALLY OF THE GALACTIC FEDERATION, TERRA HAS BECOME THE TORRIDIAN ARMY'S PRIMARY TARGET, LEVERAGING YOUR PLANET TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THE FEDERATION.





"I CAN... HEAR
THE BONE
WITCH'S VOICE."

"SOMETIMES I EVEN
SEE HER. I DON'T
EVEN KNOW HOW
THAT'S POSSIBLE."

"SHE'S BEEN IN
MY HEAD SINCE
SHE IMPLANTED
THE NEURAL
CHIP, VANYA."



"SHE HAS THE
EGGS... AND ONE OF
THEM HATCHED."



"I SEE
WINGS... ONLY
ONE SET."

"ONLY ONE?
ARE YOU
SURE?"

"IT'S...
HARD TO
FOCUS."



SHE...
THEY... ARE
COMING
HERE.

SERAH
NEEDS TO STAY
UNDER CONSTANT
SURVEILLANCE UNTIL
THE EXTRACTION OF
THE IMPLANT IS
COMPLETE.

NO, THE
IMPLANT MUST
STAY INSTALLED
UNTIL WE GAIN FULL
UNDERSTANDING OF
THIS POTENTIAL
THREAT.

I'M SORRY,
SERAH, BUT THIS
FALLS UNDER OUR
INTELLIGENCE
PROTOCOLS
NOW.



I DON'T
KNOW HOW
MUCH LONGER
I CAN HANDLE
THIS.

I WISH I
COULD GIVE YOU
COMFORTING
WORDS, MY
LOVE.

YOU WERE
NEVER GOOD
AT THAT... JUST
KISS ME.



VANYA, I'M
NEEDED AT
THE COMMAND
CENTER.

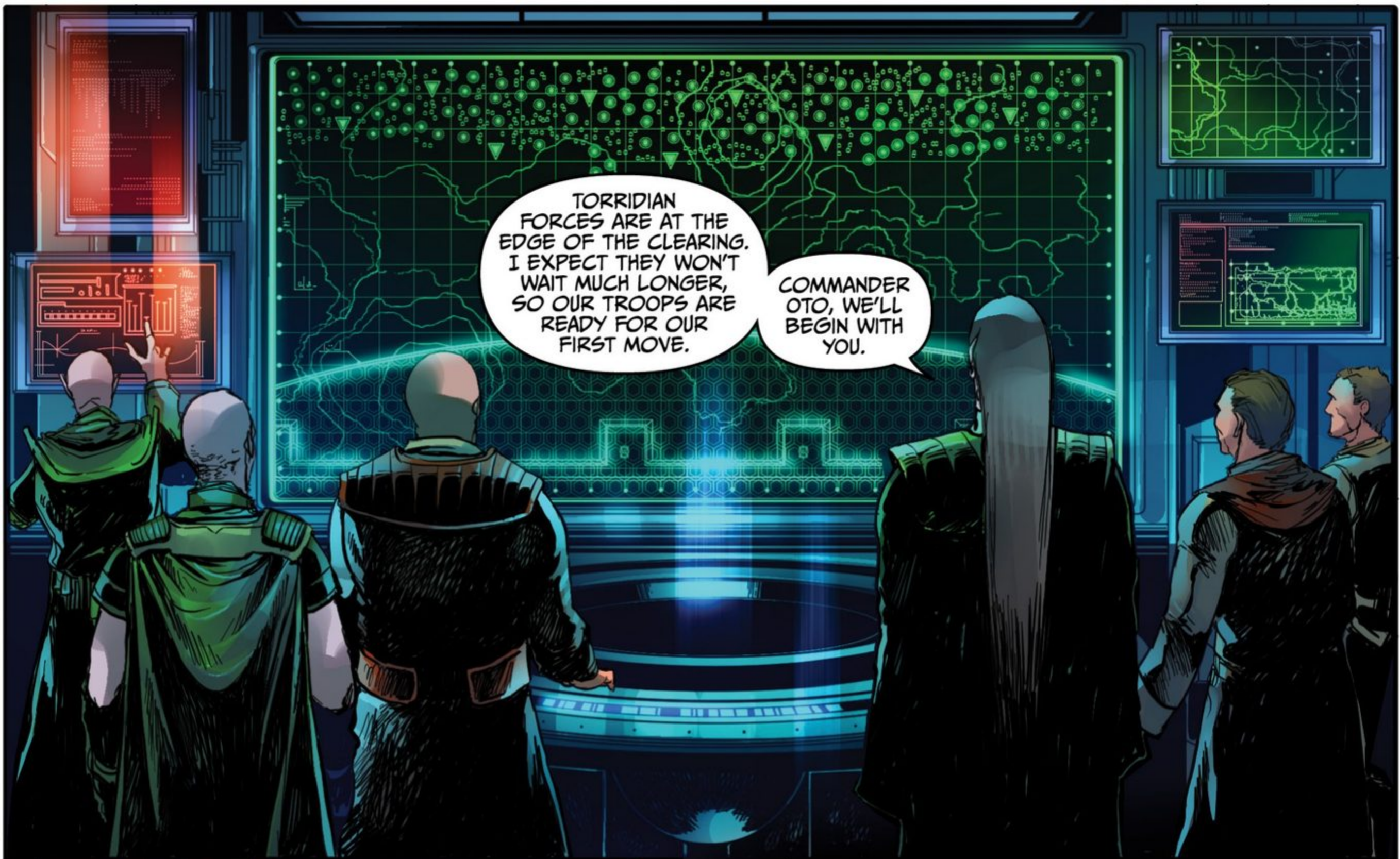


WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

GIVING YOU
CLEARANCE.
GRAB A RIFLE.
LEAVE THROUGH
THE EASTERN
SERVICE
TUNNEL.

FIND THOSE
EGGS AND
DESTROY
THEM...

...IF THEY
HAVEN'T
ALREADY
HATCHED.



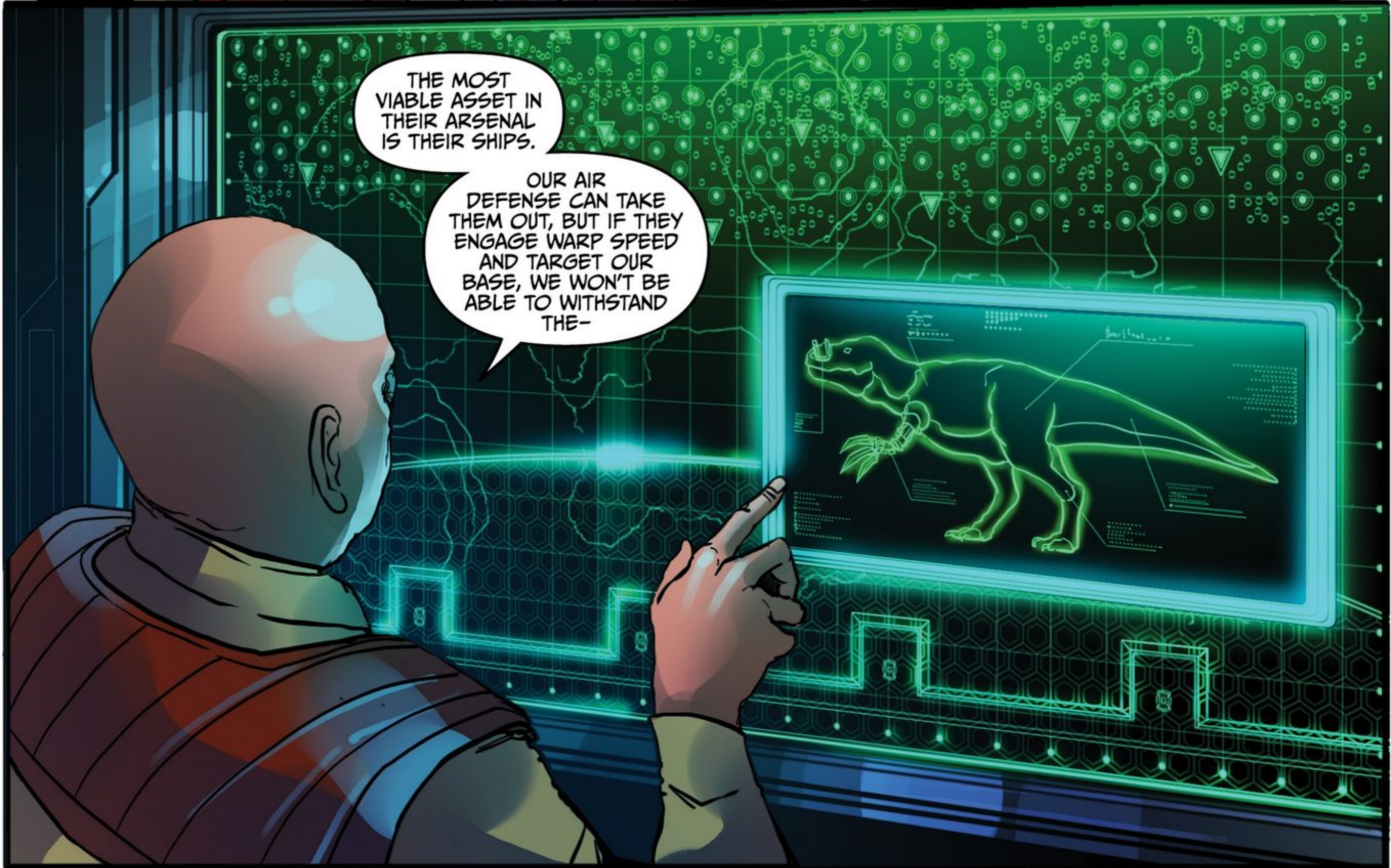
TORRIDIAN FORCES ARE AT THE EDGE OF THE CLEARING. I EXPECT THEY WON'T WAIT MUCH LONGER, SO OUR TROOPS ARE READY FOR OUR FIRST MOVE.

COMMANDER OTO, WE'LL BEGIN WITH YOU.



WE KNOW THE TORRIDIANS USE ARELIAN TECH ON THE NATIVE SPECIES.

TORRIDIAN PILOTS CAN CONTROL THESE BEASTS REMOTELY, AVOIDING LOSSES WHILE ENGAGING IN GROUND COMBAT.



THE MOST VIABLE ASSET IN THEIR ARSENAL IS THEIR SHIPS.

OUR AIR DEFENSE CAN TAKE THEM OUT, BUT IF THEY ENGAGE WARP SPEED AND TARGET OUR BASE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE-



FWOOOOSH



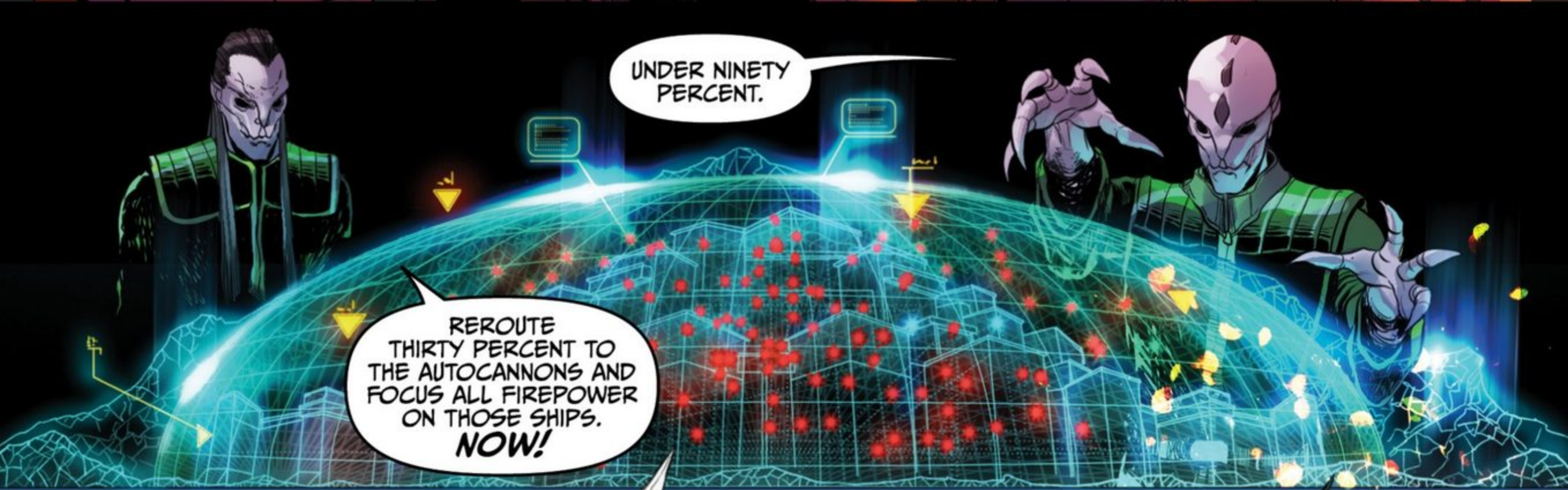
BOOM

BOOM

BOOM



CAMEN, WHAT'S THE SHIELD STATUS?



UNDER NINETY PERCENT.

REROUTE THIRTY PERCENT TO THE AUTOCANNONS AND FOCUS ALL FIREPOWER ON THOSE SHIPS. **NOW!**



IT'S ALMOST TIME.



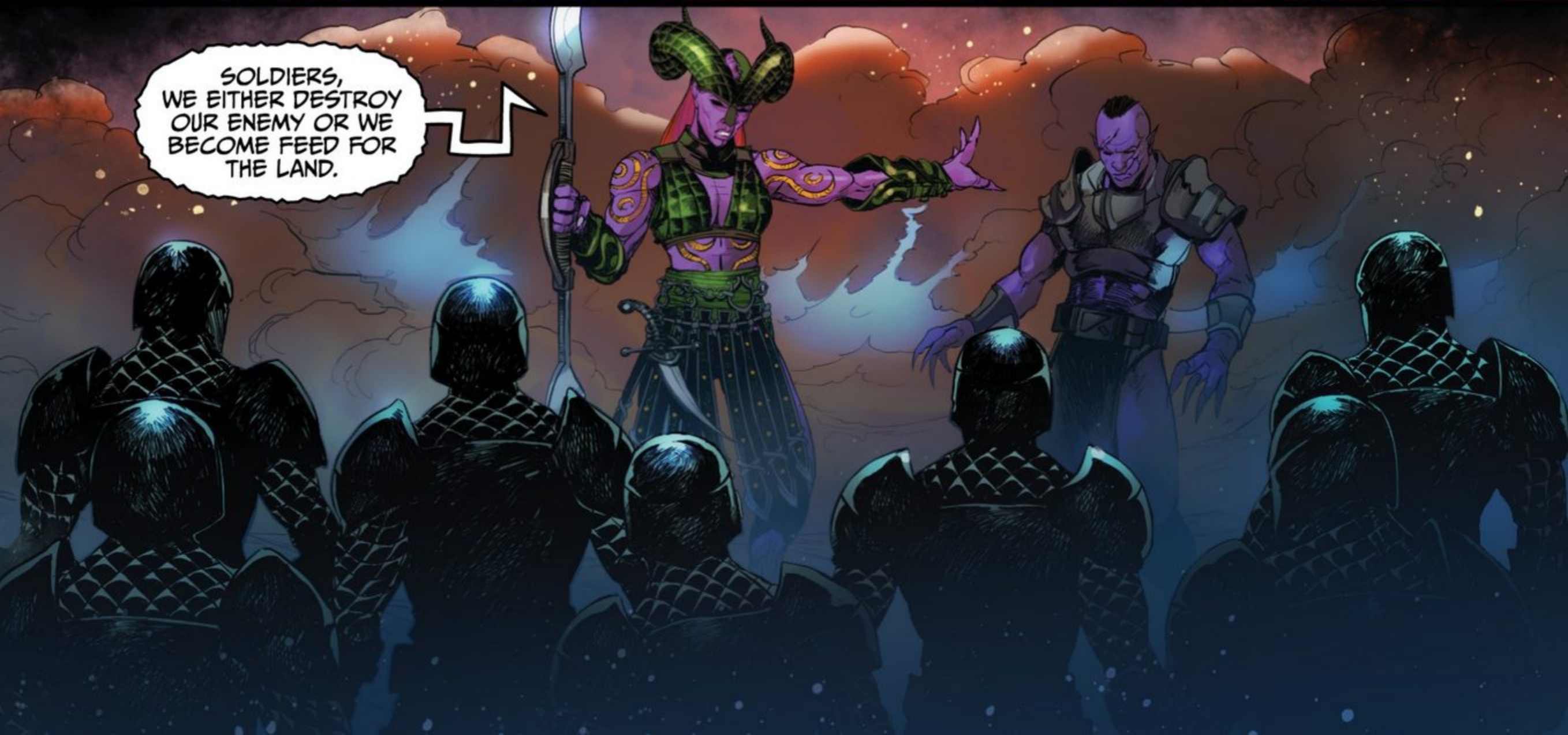




THAT WAS
THE LAST OF
OUR SHIPS! YOU'RE
INSANE! HOW ARE
WE EVEN GOING TO
MAKE IT BACK
IF WE-



CAREFUL, LIEUTENANT. I
NEED YOUR STRENGTH FOR THE
BATTLE, BUT IF I DOUBT YOUR
COMMITMENT TO THE *TORRIDIAN*
DYNASTY, THEN YOU'LL DIE
HERE AND NOW.

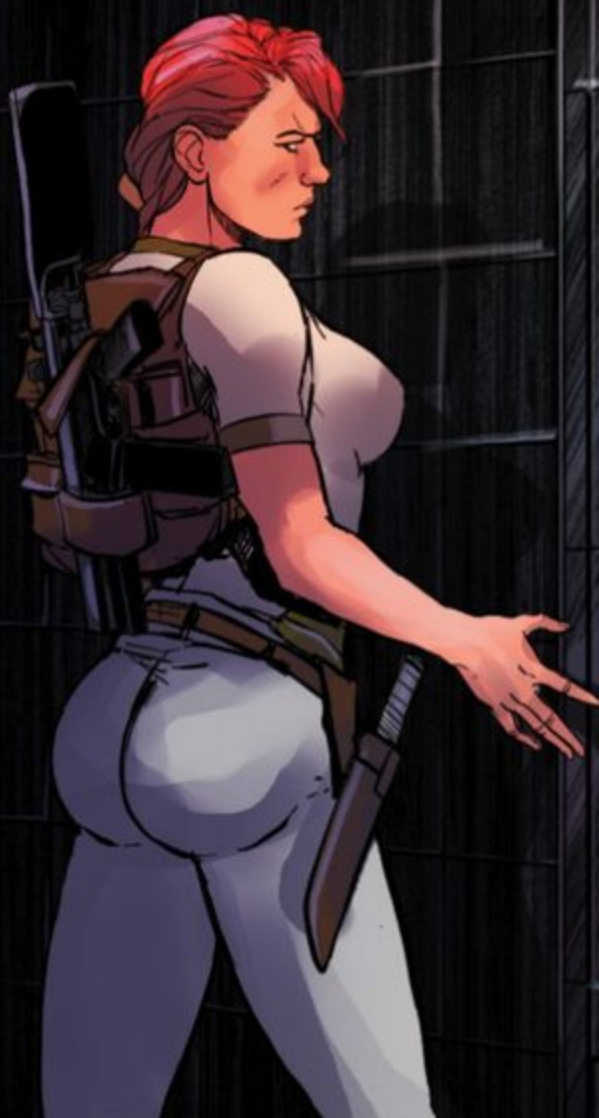


SOLDIERS,
WE EITHER DESTROY
OUR ENEMY OR WE
BECOME FEED FOR
THE LAND.



"NO OTHER
PURPOSE
GUIDES US.

"WE WILL SEND A
MESSAGE TO THE GALACTIC
FEDERATION WITH THE
DESTRUCTION OF TERRA.



"THEY'LL REGRET EVER
TURNING THEIR BACKS ON
US... DESTROYING OUR
WORLD AND LEAVING US
TO PERISH.

THE FEROCITY
OF THE *DEATH*
FLEET WILL BE
LEGENDARY."



CRASH

WARNING:
AIR SHIELDS
HAVE BEEN
DESTROYED.
BACKUP
DEFENSES ARE
NOW ONLINE.



NOW WE
KNOW HOW
DESPERATE
THEY ARE.

WHAT
SHOULD WE
DO?



DEPLOY
THE TANKS.
STALL THEM.



ATTENTION! EVACUATION
PROTOCOLS ACTIVATED!

WAIT!
WHERE'S
VANYA?



COME
ON, SERAH-
WE'VE GOTTA
GO!

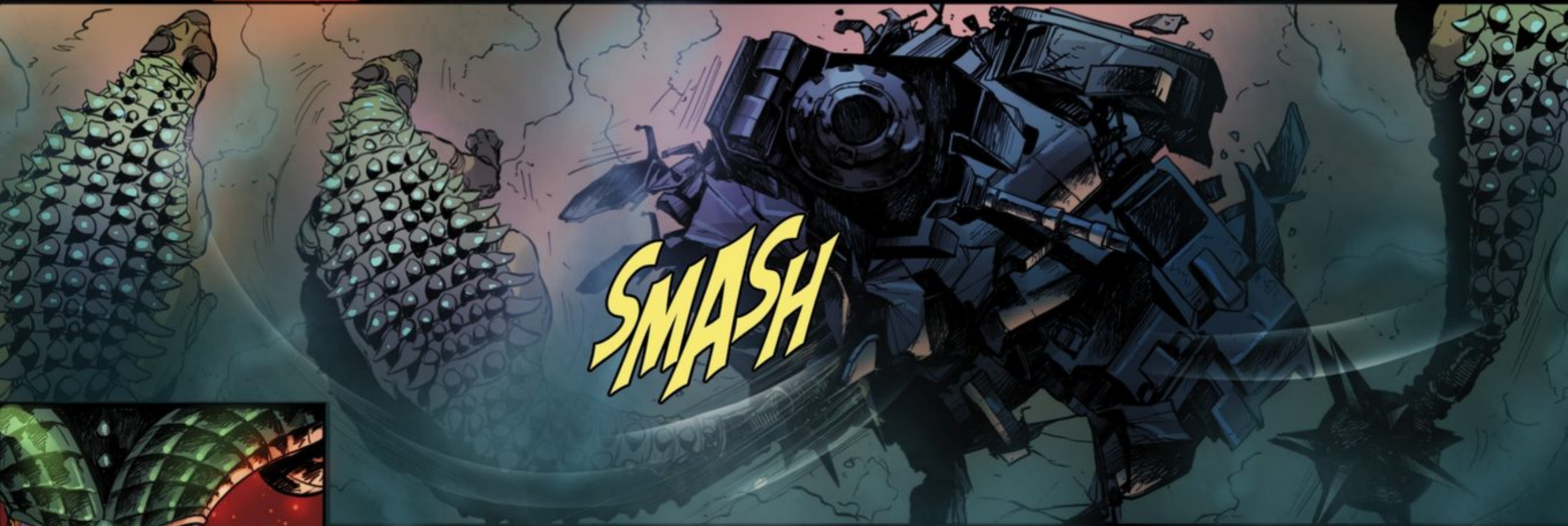
REPEAT.
EVACUATION
PROTOCOLS
ACTIVATED!





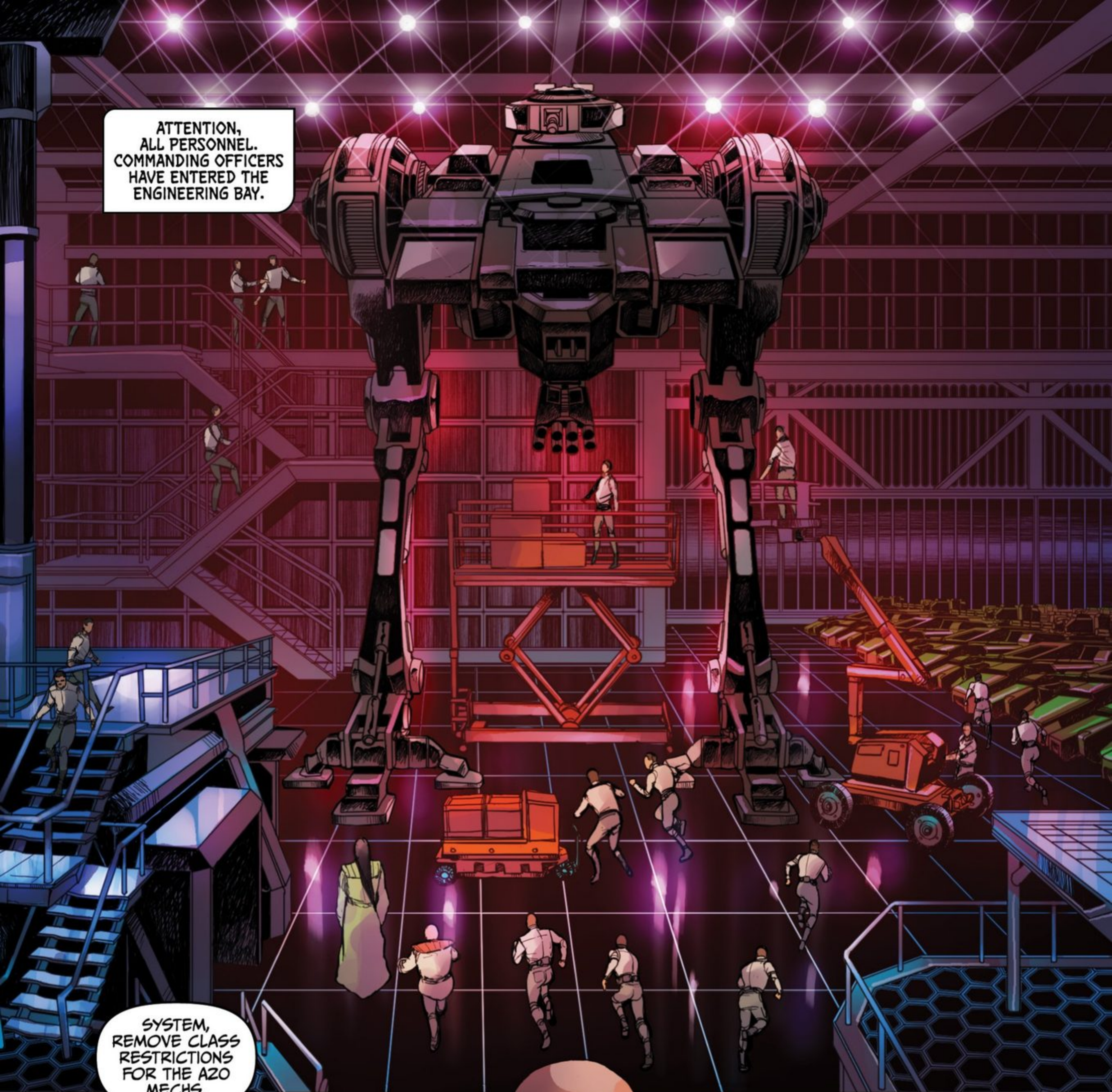






"...THIS IS ALL
THAT MATTERS
NOW."





ATTENTION,
ALL PERSONNEL.
COMMANDING OFFICERS
HAVE ENTERED THE
ENGINEERING BAY.

SYSTEM,
REMOVE CLASS
RESTRICTIONS
FOR THE AZO
MECHS.

COMPLETE.

WAIT...
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?

GOING TO WAR,
COMMANDER. I
SUGGEST YOU DO
THE SAME.











IT'S
HAPPENING...

...JUST AS I
DREAMED.



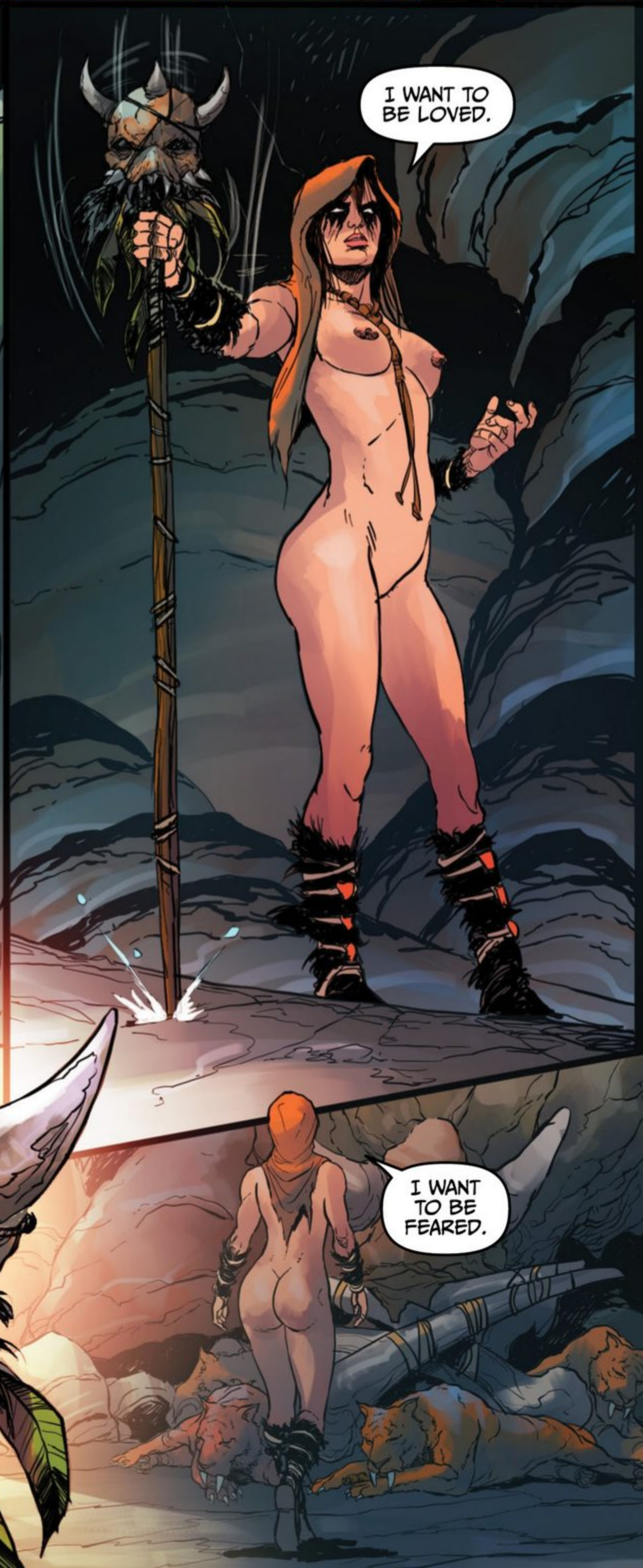
WHY IS SHE
KEEPING US
ALIVE?



SHE WANTS
SLAVES.



IT
ISN'T THAT
SIMPLE,
NIYA.



I WANT TO
BE LOVED.

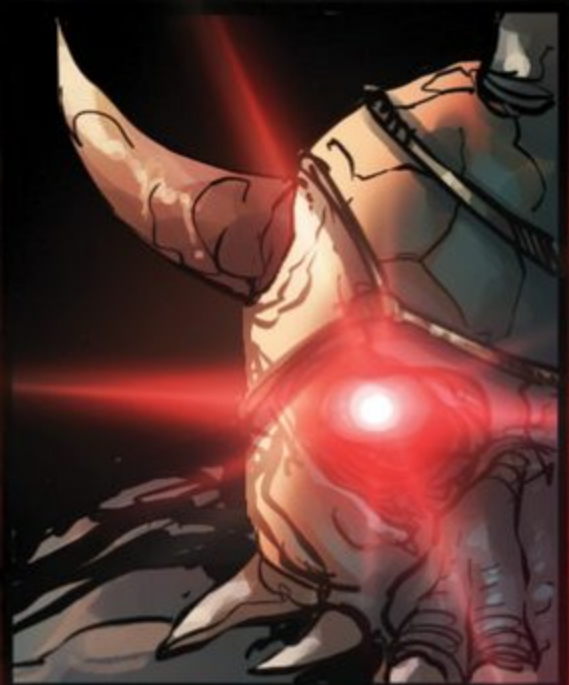
I WANT
TO BE
FEARED.

I WANT
ENDLESS
PLEASURE.

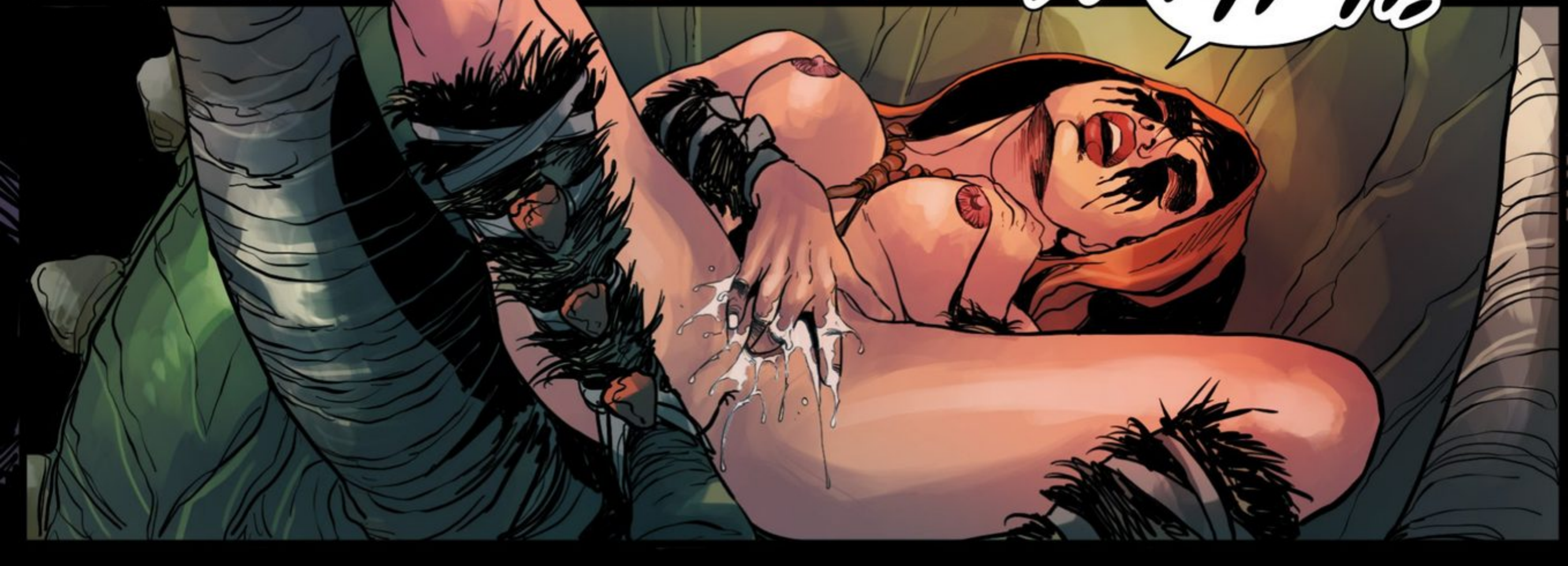
I WANT...
MMM...

I WANT...





AAAAHHH!!





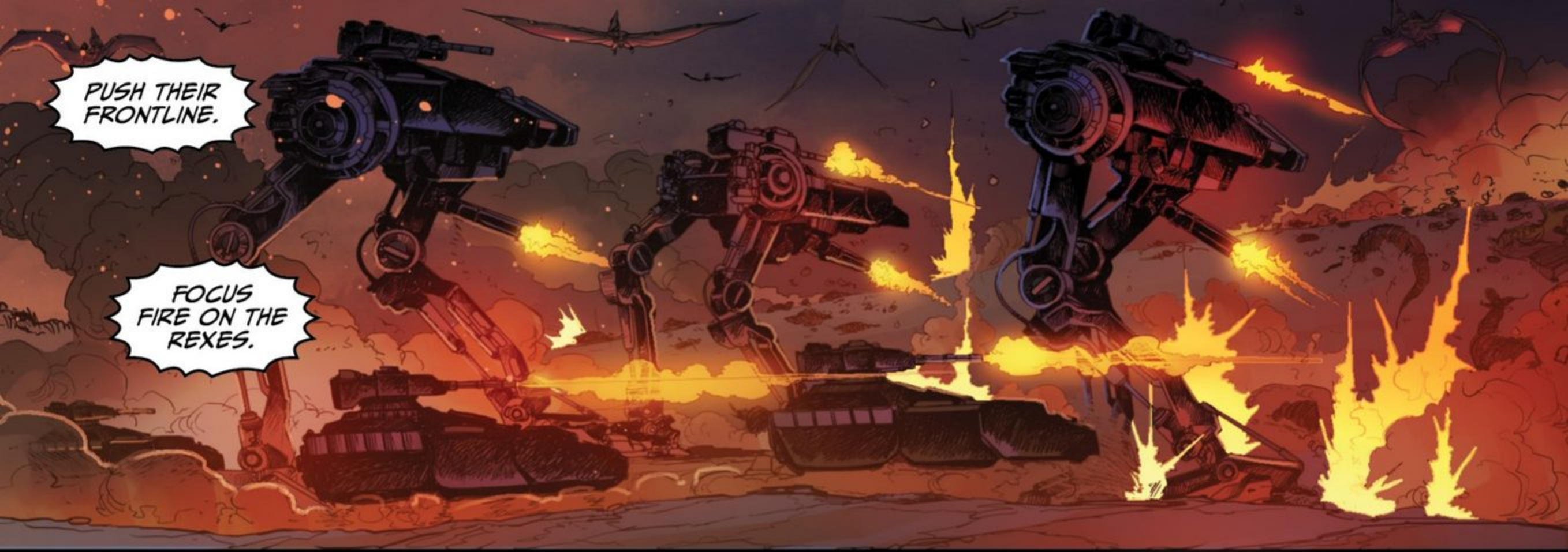
RUMBLE



NSAAHH!



GRRRRRRRGGHHHHH



PUSH THEIR
FRONTLINE.

FOCUS
FIRE ON THE
REXES.



GOT
ONE IN MY
SIGHTS.



ROOOOAR

BOOOOOON



ONE DOWN.
NICE WORK,
COMMANDER.

STAY
ALERT, WE
DON'T-





BACK TO THE
JUNGLE.

STARTING TO
THINK THIS IS
WHERE I'LL
ALWAYS BE.

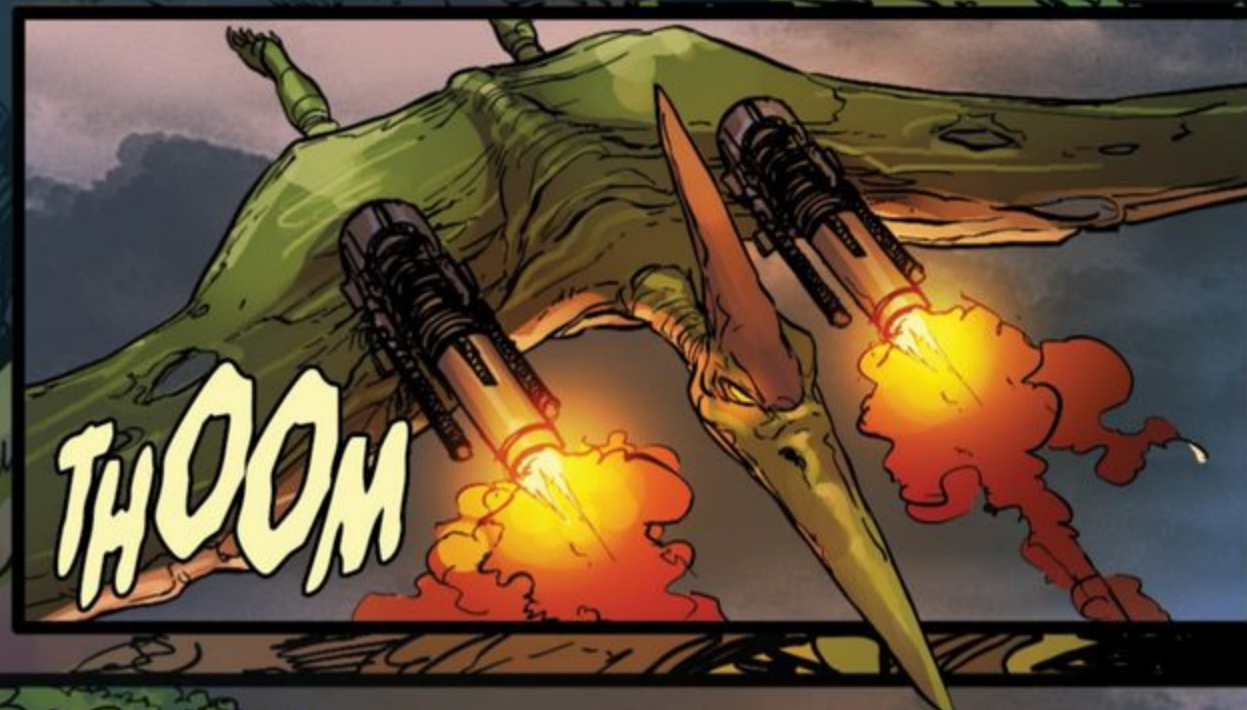
SCREECH

SHIT...

COME
AND GET IT,
FUCKER!



ONCE I'M IN
THE THICK OF
THE TREES, I
SHOULD BE-



MISSILES...
GREAT.





TO BE CONTINUED...



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MIDNIGHT